IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A laser module case comprising a snout through which an optical fiber assembly may be passed, the snout disposed through a wall of the case, wherein the optical fiber assembly is movable within the snout so that it may be aligned with a laser within the laser module case.

2. (Original) The laser module case of claim 1 wherein the optical fiber assembly is of a smaller cross-sectional exterior diameter than the snout cross-sectional inner diameter so that the optical assembly may move in an X and Y-direction within the snout.

3. (Currently Amended) The laser module <u>case</u> of claim 1 <u>ease</u> wherein the snout has an inner end and an outer end, wherein the case further comprises:

an inner joint to secure the snout to the optical assembly at the inner end; and wherein the optical fiber assembly is of a smaller cross-sectional exterior diameter than the snout cross-sectional inner diameter so that the optical assembly may move in an X and Y-direction within the snout and may thereby be aligned with a laser positioned within the case.

4. (Original) The laser module case of claim 3 further comprising an outer joint, wherein the aligned optical fiber assembly may be secured in position by the outer joint.

App. No. 09/998,962 Docket No. Joyce 23 5. (Original) The laser module case of claim 3 wherein at least a portion of the inner joint is compliant.

6. (Original) The laser module case of claim 4 wherein at least a portion of the outer joint is compliant.

7. (Original) The laser module case of claim 2 wherein at least a portion of the case comprises a deformable material.

8. (Original) The laser module case of claim 3 wherein the inner joint is a flange.

9. (Original) The laser module case of claim 4 wherein the outer joint is a flange.

10. (Original) The laser module case of claim 3 wherein the inner joint is a solder joint.

11. (Original) The laser module case of claim 4 wherein the outer joint is a solder joint.

12. (Original) The laser module case of claim 3 wherein the inner joint is a welded joint.

13. (Original) The laser module case of claim 4 wherein the inner joint is a welded joint.

14. (Original) A laser module case used with an optical fiber assembly having an inner end and an outer end, the case comprising:

a hollow snout having an inner end and an outer end; and an inner joint;

wherein the snout is disposed through a wall of the case;

the optical fiber assembly is disposed through the snout;

the inner joint secures the snout to the optical fiber assembly at their inner ends; and

the optical fiber assembly is of a smaller cross-sectional exterior diameter than the snout cross-sectional inner diameter so that the optical assembly may move in an X and Y-direction within the snout; and

wherein the optical fiber assembly may be aligned with a laser positioned within the case after the case is closed.

15. (Original) The laser module case of claim 14 further comprising:

an outer joint to secure the snout to the optical fiber assembly at their outer ends.

16. (Original) A laser module comprising a case according to claim 1.

17. (Original) A laser module comprising a case according to claim 14.

18. (Original) A laser module case having a wall through which an optical

fiber assembly is disposed, wherein the case comprises a deformable material to allow

external alignment of the optical fiber assembly with a laser within the case.

19. (Original) A laser module case comprising a snout through which an

optical fiber assembly is disposed, the snout disposed through a wall of the case, wherein

the snout is secured to the case by a bendable flange to allow movement of the snout for

alignment of the optical fiber assembly with a laser within the case.